



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Taniguchi, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,606

Group Art Unit: 2834

Filed: June 27, 2001

Examiner: Tamai, Karl I.

For: MAGNETIC BEARING CONTROL DEVICE WITH COUNTER FOR TIMED
MAINTENANCE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-19 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 9, and 18 are amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 1, 9, and 18 are independent.